

## IMAGE 1

**Adam Belt**

***Moiry Dam* (2007)**

**Acrylic and graphite on canvas**

Adam Belt's drawings of dams explore the complex relationship between human beings, the natural world, and the built landscape. Of this body of work, Belt says, "punctuating often vast terrain, dams are physical embodiments, manifestations of our interaction with the landscape culminating in structures defined by the voids they fill and shaped by the physical forces they are built to contain. Through these drawings I am attempting to convey the relationship between the structure of the dams and their topographical context."

### WHAT DO YOU SEE?

- What's happening in this work of art?
- What is the **subject** of this work of art?
- What types of **lines** are present in this work of art (horizontal, vertical, or diagonal)?
- Describe the **space** in this drawing. How does the artist make use of the space in this picture plane?
- Where is the **positive space** in this work of art? Where is the **negative space**?
- What materials do you think were used to create this work of art? What is the **medium**? What do you see that makes you say that?

### KEY TERMS

- **Subject:** In the visual arts, the subject is what the artist has chosen to paint, draw, sculpt, or otherwise create.
- **Line:** A line is an identifiable path created by a point moving in space. It is one-dimensional and can vary in width, direction, and length. Lines can be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal, straight or curved, thick or thin.
- **Space:** Space, in a work of art, refers to a feeling of depth. It can also refer to the artist's use of the area within the picture plane.
- **Positive space:** Positive space consists of spaces that are or represent solid objects.
- **Negative space:** Negative space refers to spaces that are or represent areas unoccupied by objects.
- **Medium:** The medium is the material an artist uses to make his or her artwork, i.e. paint, charcoal, or photography.



## IMAGE 2

Iana Quesnell

*Oh Boy!, Barney* (2009)

Graphite on paper

Iana Quesnell's self portraits with burros explore a juxtaposition of two myths iconic of Tijuana, one originating from the Aztecs in pre-colonial times, the other post-colonial, in which the warrior and princess of the former are transformed into the veritable "theme ride of the later. In these drawings, Quesnell plays the role of tourist submerging the unit of herself and burro into the backdrop of each cart. Erasing the cart and the city, Quesnell becomes part of the postcolonial myth of Tijuana.

### WHAT DO YOU SEE?

- What's happening in this work of art? What do you see that makes you say that?
- What is the **subject** of this work of art?
- What do you think is the **narrative**, or story, behind this artwork? What do you see that makes you say that?
- Compare and contrast the **foreground** of the artwork with the **background** of the artwork. How are the two scenes similar or different from one another?
- What materials do you think were used to create this work of art? What is the **medium**? What do you see that makes you say that?

### KEY TERMS

- **Subject:** In the visual arts, the subject is what the artist has chosen to paint, draw, sculpt, or otherwise create.
- **Narrative:** A narrative is a story or an account of an event or experience.
- **Foreground:** Part of a two-dimensional artwork that appears to be nearer the viewer or in the front.
- **Background:** The part of the picture plane that seems to be farthest from the viewer.
- **Medium:** The medium is the material an artist uses to make his or her artwork, i.e. paint, charcoal, or photography.







### IMAGE 3

**Ernest Silva**

***Vigilance, Forest and Fire Place (2008)***

**Acrylic on canvas**

Ernest Silva's mixed media and painted works emphasize the use of images to trigger speculation, based on personal experience. Of his work, Silva says, "they can be read literally but easily move to metaphor. The works evoke psychological moments and draw the viewer in for prolonged consideration. Some works can be read as representations of nature or others as allegories: the deer suggesting unspoiled nature, the family photograph - society, the book cover of a Basic Reader - education and social conditioning. This layering of references allows me to utilize a number of styles and art historical references, realism, expressionism and the vernacular."

### WHAT DO YOU SEE?

- What's happening in this work of art?
- What **colors** are present in this work of art? Are they **primary** or **secondary colors**?
- How does the artist's use of color contribute to the **mood**, or feeling of this work?
- What is the **subject** of this work of art?
- What do you think is the **narrative**, or story, behind this artwork? What do you see that makes you say that?
- What materials do you think were used to create this work of art? What is the **medium**? What do you see that makes you say that?

### KEY TERMS

- **Color:** Light reflected off objects. Color has three main characteristics: hue (red, green, blue, etc.), value, and intensity.
- **Primary colors:** Primary colors are the basis for making all other colors (red, blue, yellow).
- **Secondary colors:** Secondary colors are made by mixing any two of the primary colors (orange, green, violet).
- **Mood:** The atmosphere or feeling of a work of art.
- **Subject:** In the visual arts, the subject is what the artist has chosen to paint, draw, sculpt, or otherwise create.
- **Narrative:** A narrative is a story or an account of an event or experience.
- **Medium:** The medium is the material an artist uses to make his or her artwork, i.e. paint, charcoal, or photography.



## IMAGE 4

**Pat Warner**

*Inside Outside, Outside Inside* (2009)

**Mixed media installation**

Pat Warner's drawings and installations explore the relationship between humans and the natural environment. Of her installation, "Inside, Outside," Warner says, it is "a contained meadow of ink and graphite drawings of foliage and silhouetted trees makes reference to horticulture and the flora and fauna in my own garden. The trees and limbs refer to the surrounding landscape, and the house, of course, refers to the human element. This interior garden, where nature is momentarily ordered and contained, is meant to explore the relationship between ourselves and the physical world around us."

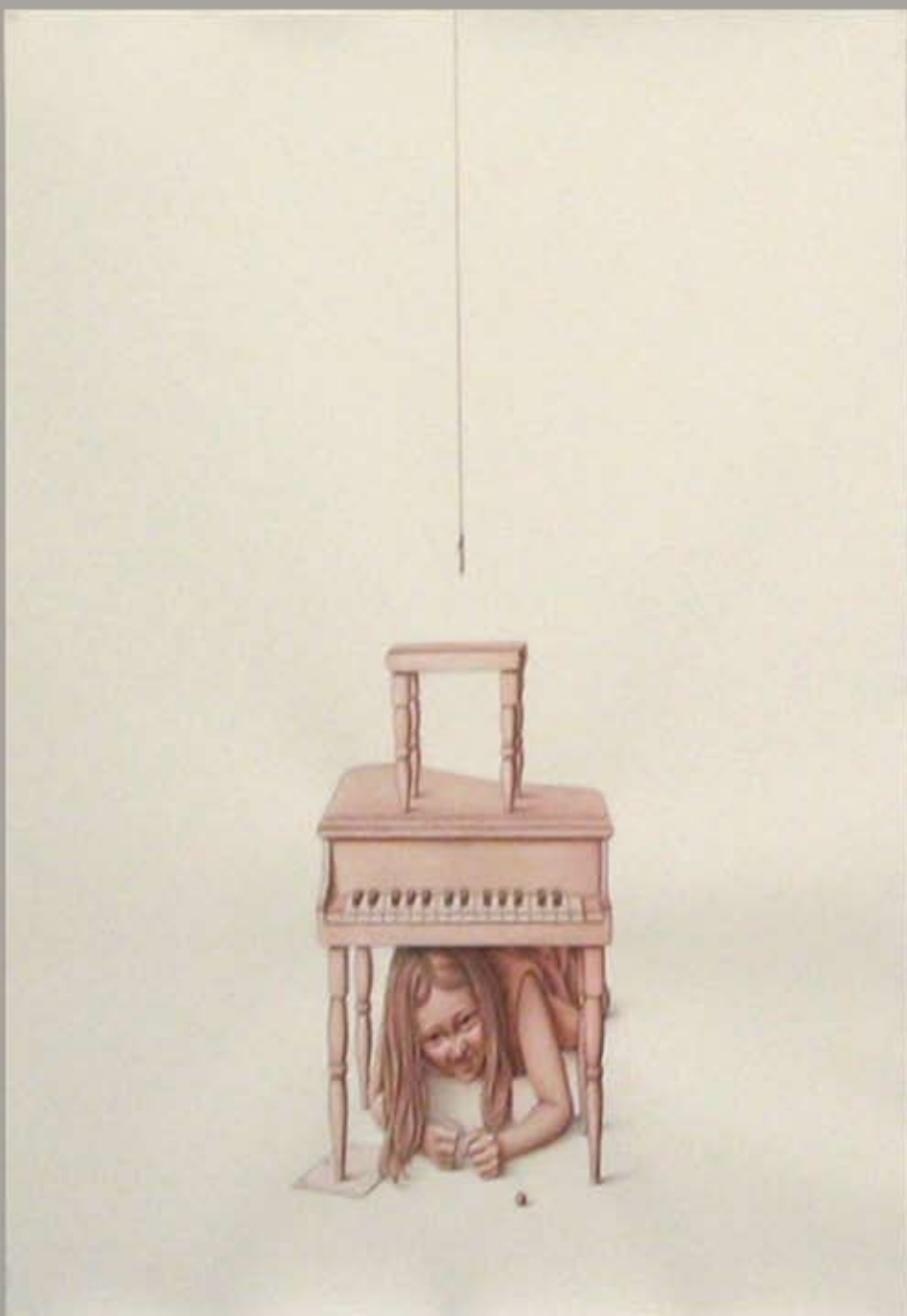
### WHAT DO YOU SEE?

- What's happening in this work of art? What is the **subject** of this work of art?
- What types of **lines** are present in this work of art (horizontal, vertical, or diagonal)?
- Describe the **space** in this installation. How does the artist make use of the space in the installation?
- Is the **shape** and construction of the structure familiar to you or unfamiliar to you? If it is familiar to you, how so?
- What materials do you think were used to create this work of art? What is the **medium**? What do you see that makes you say that?

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- **Space:** Space, in a work of art, refers to a feeling of depth. It can also refer to the artist's use of the area within the picture plane.
- **Shape:** Shape, along with form, defines objects in space. Shapes have two dimensions, height and width, and are usually defined by lines.
- **Medium:** The medium is the material an artist uses to make his or her artwork, i.e. paint, charcoal, or photography.
- **Installation art:** Installation art uses sculptural materials and other media, such as everyday and natural materials, video and sound, to modify the way we experience a particular space. It can be created in museum and gallery spaces, as well as public and private spaces.





## IMAGE 5

Joseph Biel

*Domestic* (2006)

Watercolor, colored pencil, pastel and graphite on paper

Joseph Biel work is engaged in charged human situations. This interest is reflected through various means, sometimes by portraying a particular moment or event, but more often by showing the moment before or after an action that is only partially named or specified. Biel says, “I’m interested in the suggestion of narrative possibilities than in clearly resolved linear narratives, though it seems important that certain details (i.e. gestures, expressions, clothing, object types) remain quite specific.”

### WHAT DO YOU SEE?

- What’s happening in this work of art?
- What is the **subject** of this work of art?
- What do you think is the **narrative**, or story, behind this artwork? What do you see that makes you say that?
- How does the artist’s use of color contribute to the **mood**, or feeling of this work?
- What materials do you think were used to create this work of art? What is the **medium**? What do you see that makes you say that?

### KEY TERMS

- **Subject:** In the visual arts, the subject is what the artist has chosen to paint, draw, sculpt, or otherwise create.
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## IMAGE 6

**William Riley**

***Heart II* (2009)**

**Graphite on Bristol board**

In this series or work, William Riley uses the images of heart and skull. Of this work, he says, “different civilizations felt the soul was found in either the heart or skull. The images are a starting point from which I develop the drawings. Although I began with a fairly literal rendering of the heart or skull, the drawings move towards abstraction as I develop the drawing. It is the process of addition and subtraction of marks and strokes and darks and lights that I have come to love about drawing.”

### WHAT DO YOU SEE?

- What’s happening in this work of art?
- What is the **subject** of this work of art?
- Describe the **space** in this drawing. How does the artist make use of the space in this picture plane?
- Where is the **positive space** in this work of art? Where is the **negative space**?
- What materials do you think were used to create this work of art? What is the **medium**? What do you see that makes you say that?

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